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General Earle G. Wheeler
Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff
Department of Defense
Washington, D. C. 20301

Dear Sir:

In response to your suggestion we have prepared the attached study of Asian Communist use of negotiations as a political tactic.

The study is a revision of some background material originally prepared for a project requested by the Secretary of Defense. The treatment of the Korean peace talks has been expanded to meet your needs, and some incidental material has been omitted to facilitate handling and to permit wider dissemination. Sections on the Chinese civil war and the French war in Indochina have been retained for broader historical perspective.

I am dispatching 12 copies of the memorandum for dissemination as you see fit. Additional copies can be printed if you require them.

Sincerely,

Richard Helms
Director

Attachment:
As stated

CONCUR:

/s/ R. J. Smith 18 NOV 1966

R. J. SMITH
Deputy Director for Intelligence

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GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
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JCS review(s)
completed.

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ER 66-4635/A

10 NOV 1966

Handwritten: [Signature]
General Earle G. Wheeler
Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff
Department of Defense
Washington, D. C. 20301

Dear Bus:

I accept your proposal to review the negotiating period prior to the Korean Armistice. I find we have material available on Korea and also on other negotiations with the Communists which might well uncover lessons applicable to Vietnam in the future.

I have set the wheels in motion and a paper should be ready before the end of the month.

Sincerely,

Handwritten: [Signature]
Richard Helms
Director

DDI/[]:fbr (4 Nov 66)

Rewritten: O/ExDir/[]:blp (9 Nov 66)

Distribution:

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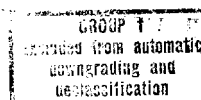
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Handwritten: JCS

6-46351A

General Earle G. Wheeler
Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff
Department of Defense
Washington, D. C. 20301

Dear Bus:

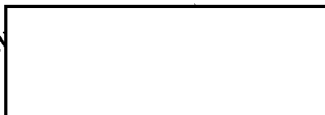
We have read with interest your recent proposal that the Agency analyze the negotiations leading to the Korean Armistice in an effort to uncover lessons from which the United States might benefit in Vietnam.

There is material available which should form a useful basis for such a study. We are, therefore, proceeding to develop a paper which should be ready before the end of the month.

Sincerely,

Richard Helms
Director

CON



Deputy Director for Intelligence

4 Nov 66
Date

DDI: [redacted]:fbr (4 November 1966)

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66-46351A

General Earle G. Wheeler
Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff
Department of Defense
Washington, D. C. 20301

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Sincerely,

Richard Helms
Director

CONCUR:

/s/ R. J. Smith

4 NOV 1965

Deputy Director for Intelligence

Date

DDI: fbr (4 November 1966)

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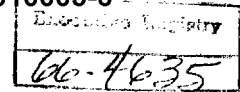
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THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301



25 October 1966

Dear Dick:

DDI-4432-66

Talk and rumors of possible negotiation leading to a peaceful settlement of the Vietnamese War are coming from all sides these days. While I am not optimistic that the time has come when the communists are ready to call it quits -- I am inclined to think that they will fade away rather than go to a conference table -- it may be that there will be a peace negotiation of some sort. I recall the interminable negotiations that preceded the Armistice in Korea; in fact, it sticks in my mind that we lost more American soldiers during the negotiation period than we did during the pre-negotiation period. I think we should have learned a lesson or two from that miserable time.

What I am really driving at is this: I suggest that it would be timely for us to analyze the negotiations leading to the Korean Armistice and sift out the lessons which we should have learned. I think that if this study were packaged attractively and presented to our senior policy makers that it might educate us sufficiently to avoid at least some of the errors we committed in the early 1950's.

While I could call on DIA to undertake this job, I have the impression that you have people available who are expert in this field and could do the job in very fine fashion. Of course, if you would care to have us collaborate or help in any way, I would be happy to agree.

With best wishes.

Sincerely,

EARLE G. WHEELER
Chairman
Joint Chiefs of Staff

Honorable Richard N. Helms
Director, Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C. 20505

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